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Ellsberg protests bombs as 'genocide'

By Frank Donovan
Globe Staff

Dr. Daniel Ellsberg, in an address last night, called President Nixon's decision to escalate the bombing of North Vietnam "genocide ... which has increased the risks of world war."

Speaking on "Why President Nixon Escalates" at a fund-raising dinner before the Business Executives Move for Vietnam Peace and the Boston Lawyers' Vietnam Committee, Ellsberg said he believes that "unrestricted bombing of the population is now being carried out."

By attacking the population of North Vietnam, he said, the Administration may have deluded itself into believing that it can force the leaders of the North into submission.

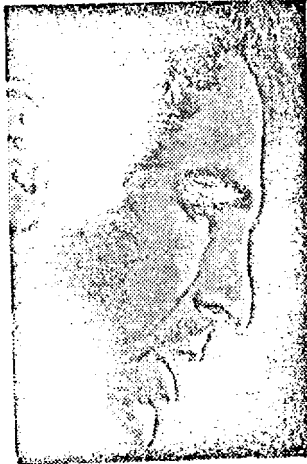
Reports prepared by the military and the Central Intelligence Agency have stated that the mining of waterways in the North and bombing could not halt vital supplies from coming into the country, he added.

He cited three reasons why he thought the President escalated the bombing:

1. To see if the reports prepared by the military are right.

2. To see if the Russians and Chinese would overlook the bombing and the mining of harbors.

3. To see if genocidal



DANIEL ELLSBERG
... 'genocide'

bombing could force Hanoi to change its position.

Ellsberg said the bombing is an attempt to prevent the loss of cities to the North, and "any amount of killing and bombing will be allowed to prevent this."

He said it was his belief that "the next million tons of bombs will kill more of the population than the million tons which preceded it."

He said it was the escalation of the war and crisis that the country now faces which has prompted him to speak out, although he is scheduled to go on trial June 20 in Los Angeles for distributing the Pentagon Papers to the public.

He said he felt a deep sense of failure because the Pentagon Papers failed to prevent this crisis. He said he wished he had made them public in 1964.

At his trial, Ellsberg said, he hopes to raise issues in a courtroom which have never been raised before. "I have never been prosecuted for giving information to the people before," he said.